

REMARKS

Within the Office Action dated May 03, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C section 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent 7,089,321 B2 to Hayashi (Hayashi). Claims 6-7 and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of United States Patent Application 2004/0,218,905 A1 to Green et al. (Green). Claims 5 and 13 were rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of Green. Claims 8 and 16 were rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of United States Patent 6,857,130 B2 to Srikantan.

By this amendment Applicants amend claims 1, 3 and 9, and add new claims 17-21. Accordingly, claims 1-21 will be pending in the application upon entry of this amendment.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-8

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over (Hayashi). Claims 6-7 were rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of Green. Claim 5 was rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of Green. Claim 8 was rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of Srikantan. Claims 2-8 are dependent on claim 1.

Claim 1 recites a method for networking television recording devices. The method receives multiple television signals and selects a set of tuners from a plurality of tuners available on a network. The method tunes each of the television signals in one of the tuners selected from the plurality of tuners, and buffers the television signals on a storage medium in at least one PVR media server. The PVR media server is particularly configured for maintaining a write position for the buffering. The method couples several clients, over the network, to the PVR media server, assigns at least two of the

clients to one or more of the tuners, and transfers, over the network, buffered television signals to the clients.

Applicants respectfully submit that Hayashi does not disclose, teach, or even suggest such a method. For instance, the cited portion of Hayashi does not disclose a method of networking recording devices, and more specifically, does not disclose a personal video recording (PVR) media server that is particularly configured to maintain a write position for buffering. Hayashi also does not disclose selecting a set of tuners from a plurality of tuners available over a network. In contrast, Hayashi illustrates, describes, and is directed to a single set of tuners, fixed within a single server. Hence, Hayashi actually teaches against the limitations of claim 1.

Accordingly, the cited references do not render unpatentable claim 1. Since claims 2-8 are dependent on claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not render unpatentable claims 2-8 for at least the reasons discussed above in relation to claim 1. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-8.

II. Rejections of Claims 9-16

The Examiner rejected claims 9-12 under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi. Claims 14-15 were rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of Green. Claim 13 was rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of Green. Claim 16 was rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi, and further in view of Srikantan. Claims 10-18 are dependent on claim 9.

Claim 9 recites a system that includes several clients for displaying television signals, and at least one PVR media server coupled to receive several television signals. The PVR media server has

several television tuners for tuning each of the television signals, so as to assign at least two of the clients to one or more of the tuners, and thereby generate a set of assigned clients. The system further includes a storage medium and a network. The storage medium is coupled to the television tuners, and is for buffering the television signals. The network is for coupling the clients to the PVR media server and for transferring the buffered television signals to the assigned clients. The PVR media server is particularly configured for maintaining a write position for the buffering. The system is configured for selecting a set of tuners for tuning the received signals. The selected tuners are coupled to storage media for buffering the signals for the assigned clients.

Applicants respectfully submit that Hayashi does not disclose, teach, or even suggest such a system. For instance, the cited portion of Hayashi does not disclose a system for networking recording devices, and more specifically, does not disclose a personal video recording (PVR) media server that is particularly configured to maintain a write position for buffering. Hayashi also does not disclose a system that selects a set of tuners from a plurality of tuners available over a network. In contrast, Hayashi illustrates, describes, and is directed to a single set of tuners, fixed within in a single server. Hence, Hayashi actually teaches against the limitations of claim 9.

Accordingly, the cited references do not render unpatentable claim 9. Since claims 10-16 are dependent on claim 9, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not render unpatentable claims 10-16 for at least the reasons discussed above in relation to claim 9. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 9-16.

III. New Claims 17-21

Applicants add new claims 17-21. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not disclose, teach, or even suggest the limitations recited by these new claims. For instance, new

claim 17 recites a method of networking video recording devices that receives multiple signals, and thereby generates a set of received signals. The method selects several tuners located within a network, and tunes the received signals by using the tuners selected within the network. The method couples the tuners to several storage media, and buffers the received signals by using a first storage medium in at least a first PVR media server thereby generating a set of buffered signals. The first PVR media server is particularly configured for maintaining a write position for the buffering. In a specific example, the method of claim 18, selects a first tuner for a first received signal, and advantageously resolves potential conflicts relating to the selection of available tuners. The first tuner preferably comprises an available tuner on the network, and the first tuner is coupled to the first storage medium. Hence, the method allocates space on the first storage medium to record received signals, and stores the first received signal on the first storage medium during a predetermined time.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not render unpatentable new claims 17-21. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request examination and allowance of claims 17-21.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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